

**Tongass Futures Roundtable
Sustainable Economy Working Group
DRAFT CHARTER**

The Sustainable Economy Working Group (SEWG) is established as a Working Group of the Tongass Futures Roundtable. One of the stated goals of the Roundtable is to “Advocate for Southeast Alaska to have a robust, community-based, diversified and stable economy.” The SEWG is charged to advance this goal by encouraging sustainable resource use policies, programs and practices in Southeast Alaska’s communities, industries, land uses, transportation, and government. The SEWG may collaborate with other economic development organizations to implement sustainable development projects, actions or initiatives, including:

- Evaluating and making recommendations for policies that encourage sustainable use of energy and natural resources, regionally and at the community level, in fields such as forestry, watershed management, solid waste, transportation, and regulation.
- Helping to design or support projects that demonstrate sustainable natural resource uses and practices, better utilize a currently extracted natural resource, increase private sector jobs in the region, and increase the region’s population.
- Sponsoring knowledgeable speakers on topics pertaining to sustainable resource use and economic development.
- Recommending and demonstrating ways to achieve a timber industry that has continuity, sustainability and reliability.
- Recommending ways to achieve a timber industry that is integrated, uses best conservation practices, demonstrates value-added economic activity, and takes full advantage of second-growth harvest and diverse timber products.
- Recommending ways to achieve a sustainable forest and stream restoration industry that provides fisheries, wildlife, recreation, subsistence, tourism and other community economic benefits.
- Recommending ways to encourage sustainable development entrepreneurs in all economic sectors including recreation, tourism, wood products, mining, energy, and fisheries.
- Recommend ways to decrease reliance on government.

Definitions:

“Sustainable practices” are those that can be perpetuated indefinitely.

“Sustainable economic development” and “sustainability” have been defined as policies and programs that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

“Sustainable development” has been defined as requiring that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components.